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# Cultural Resource

## Management Report

FINAL REPORT OF A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY  
OF THE LEVEE MODIFICATIONS AT SAWYER  
WARD COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

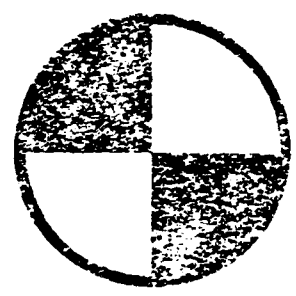
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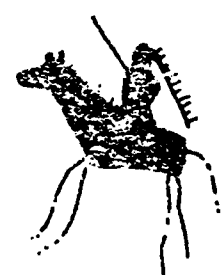
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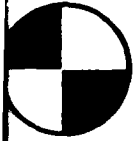
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<p>The community of Sawyer is located in Ward County, North Dakota, approximately 16 miles downstream of Minot. This city is currently affected by flooding of the Souris River. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plans to upgrade and improve the emergency levee system within Sawyer to provide permanent flood control protection. A total of four modification areas to the Sawyer flood control program were inventoried during the current project. This report provides a summary of previous archaeological and historical studies in the project areas, describes the regional environment, and gives a theoretical and methodological overview, describes the field methods, presents a detailed description of the inventory areas and results, and recommends future work necessary as the result of the project findings.</p>					
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FINAL REPORT OF A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY  
OF THE LEVEE MODIFICATIONS AT SAWYER  
WARD COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The community of Sawyer is located in Ward County, North Dakota (Figure 1). The city lies approximately sixteen miles downstream of Minot. This community is currently affected by flooding of the Souris River. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), St. Paul District plans to upgrade and improve the emergency levee system within Sawyer to provide permanent flood control protection (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1988). The levees at Sawyer are part of the overall Souris River Basin project being undertaken by the COE.

The initial levee improvements proposed within Sawyer were inventoried in 1982 as part of the larger Lake Darling-Souris River Basin project conducted by Powers Elevation, Inc. (Floodman, Friedman, and Schwiebert 1985). The original plans for Sawyer involved the survey of an 0.8 mile long levee utilizing a 200 foot wide corridor. This levee was designed to protect about 43 acres of land within the town of Sawyer. The cultural resource inventory at Sawyer along the levee route resulted in the recording of fourteen historic sites. No prehistoric cultural remains were identified within the project boundaries. The historic sites were evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as part of the original project. None of the fourteen sites were judged to be NRHP eligible properties. No further cultural resources work was recommended for the Sawyer levee project area.

Since completion of the 1982 survey, the proposed project alignments at Sawyer have been modified. The resulting modifications were not covered by the original project inventory. On April 11, 1988, the COE awarded contract DACW37-88-M-0732 to Powers Elevation Co., Inc. (Powers) for the Phase I cultural resources inventory of areas contained in the modifications. The following report will discuss the areas inventoried for the modifications and present the results of the survey and recommendations for further work based on the results obtained.

A total of four modification areas to the Sawyer flood control program were inventoried during the current project. The four survey areas were defined and illustrated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (1988) and are of relatively small size and impact area. The areas which were inventoried are labelled #1 to 4 and are illustrated in Figures 2 and 3. The project modifications are described briefly below.

Modification #1 involves the construction of a channel cut-off across the neck of a sharp meander of the Souris River. The defined impact area is approximately 700 ft in length by a maximum of 200 ft in width.

Modification #2 involves levee construction impacts with survey corridors on both the north and south sides of the Souris River. The impact area along the river channel is approximately a

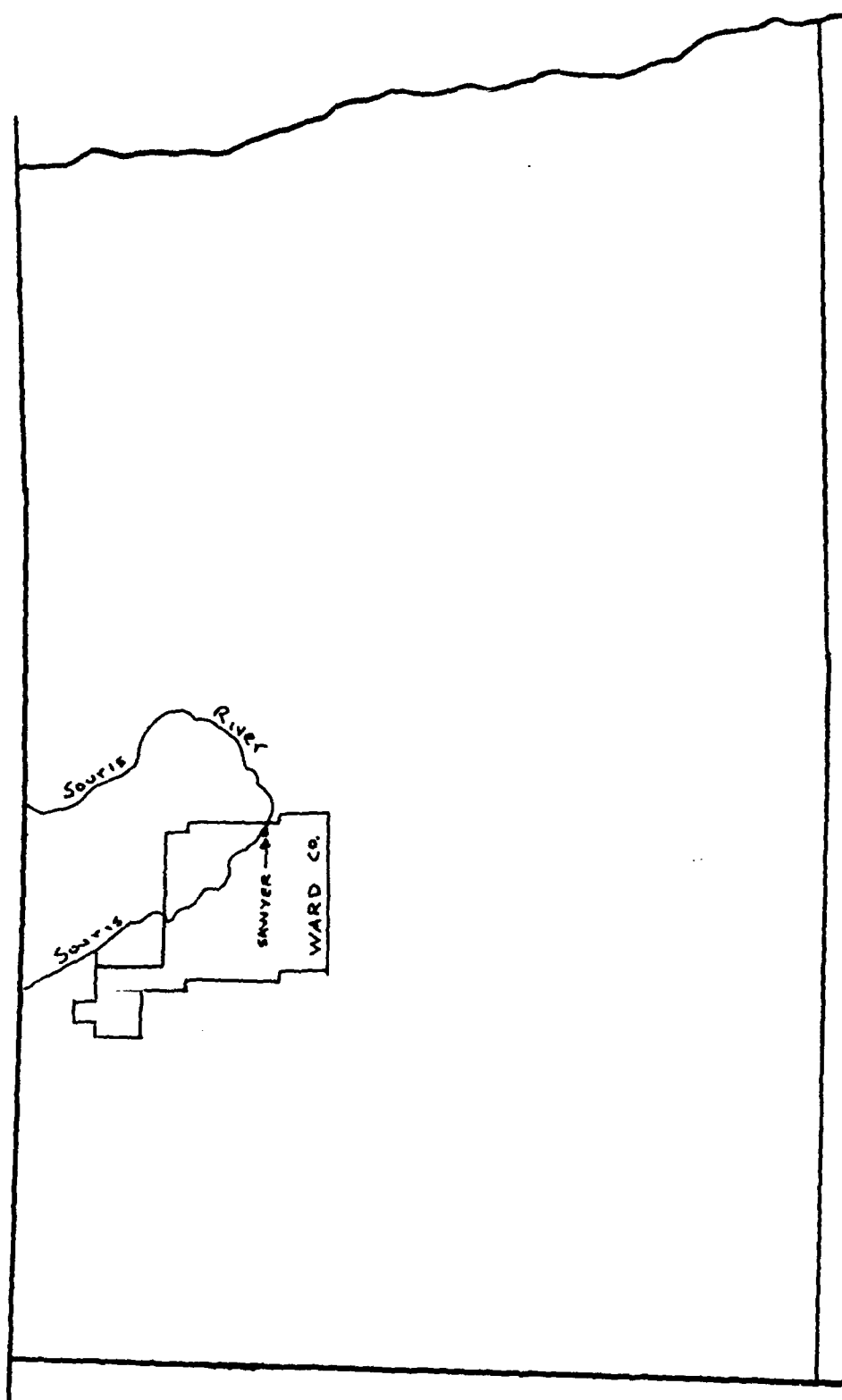
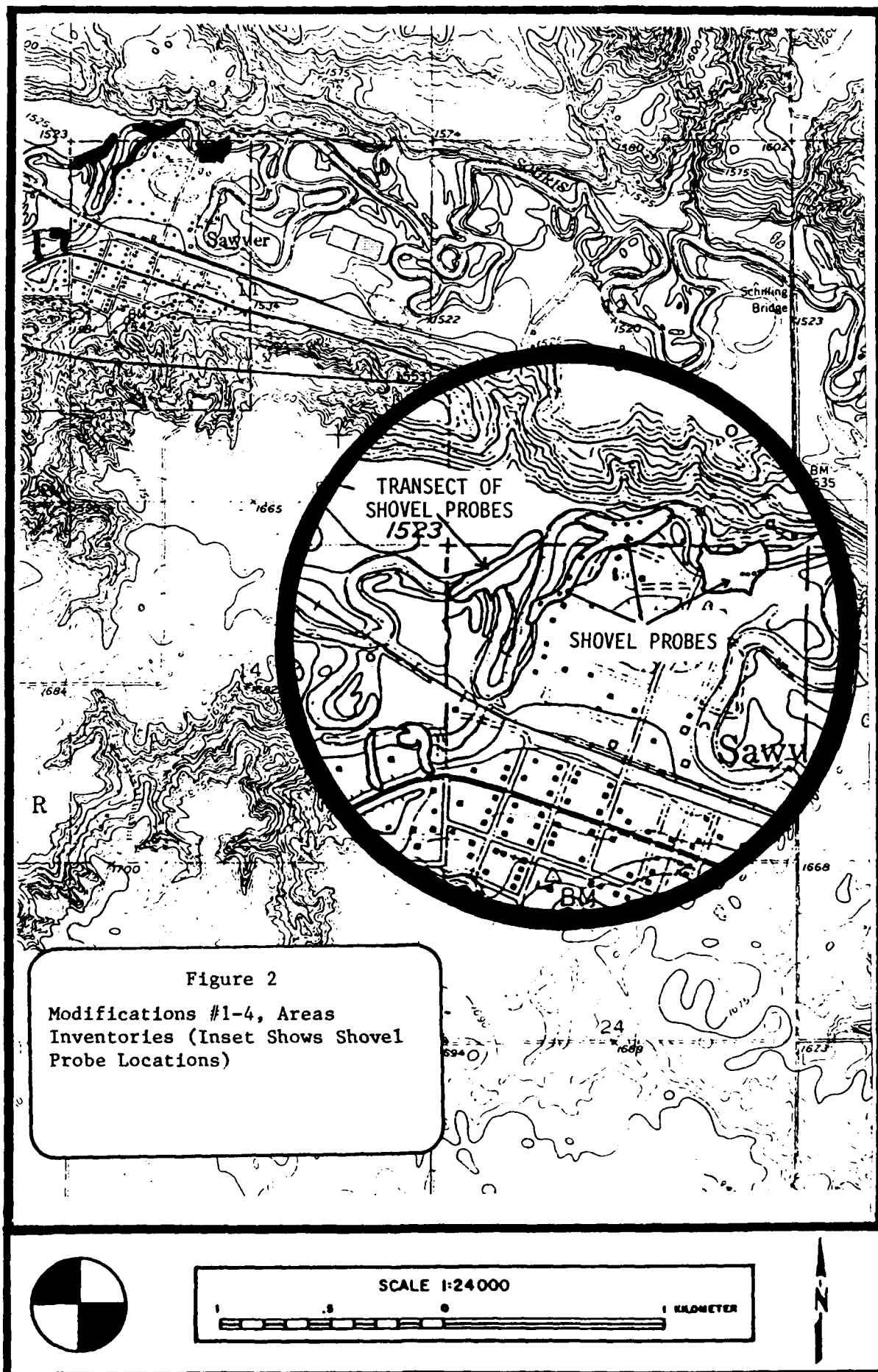
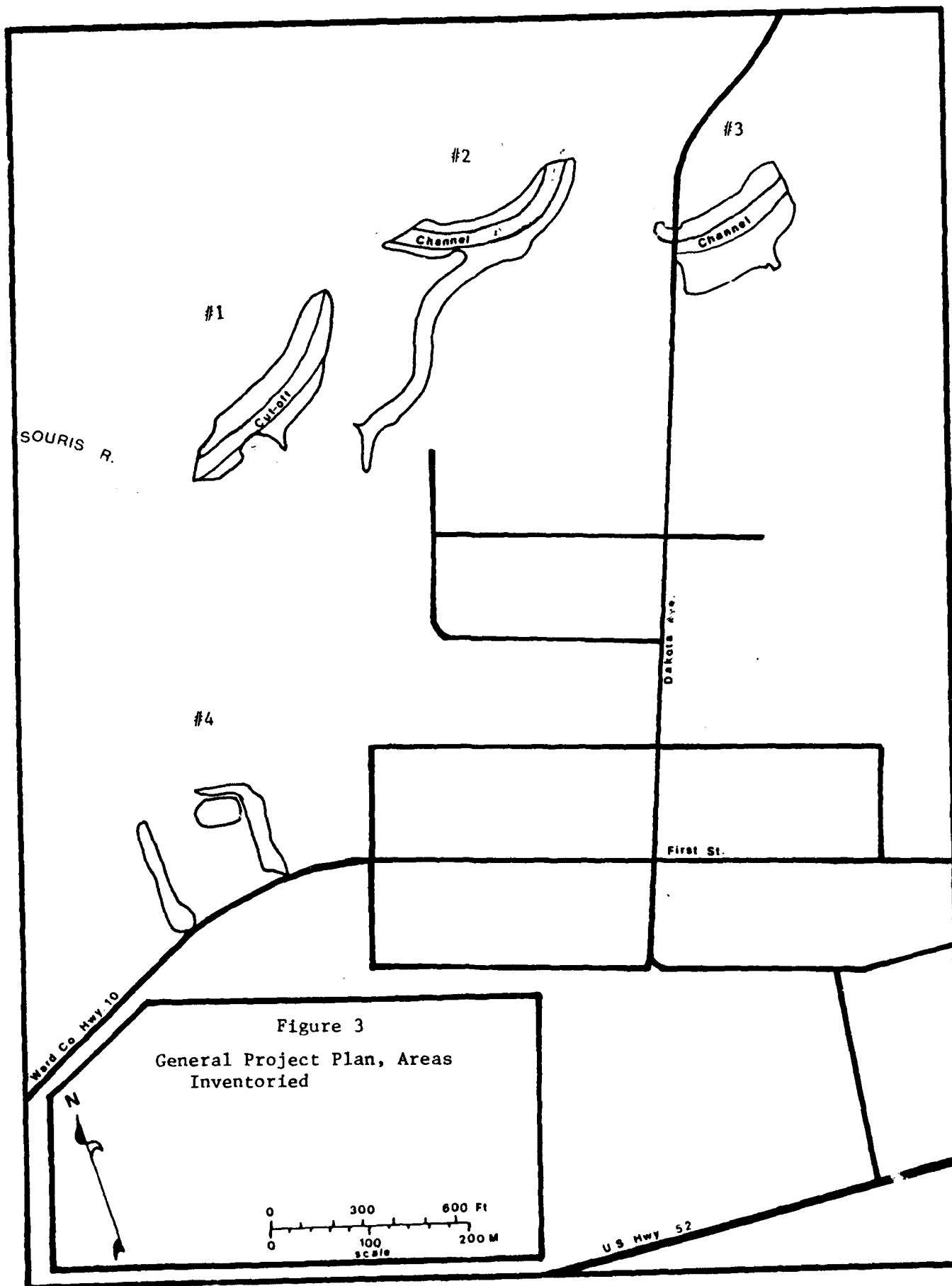


Figure 1. General Project Location Within North Dakota





maximum of 700 ft in length by 150 ft in width. A segment of levee was inventoried tailing to the southwest along an existing levee some 1,000 ft in length by 50 ft in width.

Modification #3 involves levee construction impacts on both sides of the Souris River, as well. The impact area is approximately 400 ft in length by 250 feet in width.

Modification #4 involves the construction of two segments of levee and a ponding area. The easternmost levee construction is found along an existing levee and extends approximately 400 ft in length by 60 ft in width. The ponding area is about 120 ft by 100 ft in size adjacent to the levee. The western segment of levee construction is approximately 400 ft in length by 80 feet in maximum width.

The Phase I inventory of the areas of modification was conducted on May 11 and 12, 1988 by Mervin G. Floodman. A total of two person days were expended in the field effort. Field work was accomplished according to the project scope-of-work provided in Appendix A.

The report was written by Mervin G. Floodman. A copy of the field notes are enclosed under separate cover. No artifacts were collected.

The report provides a summary of previous archaeological and historical studies in the project areas, describes the regional environment, gives a theoretical and methodological overview, describes the field methods, presents a detailed description of the inventory areas and results, and recommends future work necessary as the result of the project findings.

## 2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The environmental setting of the Upper Souris River Basin was fully discussed within the 1982 survey report (Floodman et al. 1985: 15-25). The following is a brief summary localized to the Sawyer area and the current project limitations.

### 2.1 PHYSIOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

The Sawyer area is found within the ground moraine or Glaciated Plains section of the Souris River Basin. This section lies between the higher Missouri Coteau on the west and the featureless bed of glacial Lake Souris on the east (COE 1978). The plain is undulating with numerous undrained depressions, low hills and elongated ridges. Relief varies from less than 10 ft in most areas to 30 ft. The Souris River valley is more deeply entrenched within the ground moraine plain than are other areas in the basin.

The Souris River valley lies in sharp contrast to the rest of the surrounding ground moraine plain. The river valley was cut by glacial meltwater and was subsequently aggraded to its present level after the retreat of the last glaciers. Thus the Souris is a small sized stream in an oversized valley. The Souris River lies 100 to 200 ft below the ground moraine with steep sided valley walls and a marked terrace system (Lemke 1960; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1978).

The features of the area are predominantly the result of Pleistocene glacial advances. The Souris valley was cut by meltwater from the Mankato substage of the Wisconsin glacialiation. Unconsolidated surface deposits in the river valley consist of either Pleistocene glacial deposits or, in the Sawyer modification area, recent floodplain alluvium. The recent alluvium consists of clays, sands, silts, and minor amounts of coarse sand and gravel. The deposits can exceed 30 ft in the river bottoms (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1978).

## 2.2 VEGETATION

The dominant vegetation in the area of the Sawyer levee modifications closely corresponds to Kuchler's (1964) Northern Floodplain Forest characterized by Populus-Salix-Ulmus. Low bottomland species on the valley floor include American elm (Ulmus americanus), green ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica), box elder (Acer negundo), and cottonwood (Populus spp.). Also present are black willow (Salix lutea) and western wildrose (Rosa woodsii). Low bottom areas in or near oxbows which generally are not conducive to agriculture contain reeds (Calamagrostis inexplansa) and (Calamovilfa longifolia), blue grama (Bouteloua gracilis), prairie cordgrass (Spartina pectinata), and sedges (Carex spp.). Other bottom areas may be converted to wild hay and used as pasture land.

## 3.0 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

A literature and files search of the project areas was undertaken on April 19, 1988, by Nick G. Franke, at the North Dakota State Historical Society offices in Bismarck. The files search was centered on three sections in which the levee modification inventories were to be conducted. The sections include 2, 10, and 11 of T.153N., R.81W. in Ward County, North Dakota. The files search is contained in Appendix B.

Files inspected at the State Historic Preservation Office included the National Register Listings, the site location catalog, the survey report catalog and the uncataloged survey reports. All relevant survey reports were inspected. The results show that two surveys had been conducted in the project areas and that four site leads and fourteen sites were reported for the area.

TABLE 1. REPORTED SITE LEADS

<u>SITE LEAD</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>REPORTER/DATE</u>
Echo Post Office	NE Sec. 11	Tweton 1978 REAP
Habitation	NE Sec. 11	Hecker 1938 WPA
Habitation	NE SE Sec. 11	Hecker 1938 WPA
Habitation	On line SE Sec. 11 and NE Sec. 14.	Hecker 1938 WPA

In relationship to the Sawyer levee modifications, all of the site leads are located in Section 11, T153N, R81W. The leads are not specific in location and give only general 40 to 160 acre tracts. The first lead was reported by Tweton in 1978 from the North Dakota Regional Environmental Assessment Program (REAP) and refers to a historic post office. The last three are references to prehistoric habitation sites and are noted by Thad Hecker in 1938 WPA work.

TABLE 2. RECORDED HISTORIC SITES

<u>SITE NUMBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>RECORDER/DATE</u>
32WD25	NW NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD26	NW NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD27	NW NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD28	NW NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD29	NW NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD30	NE NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD31	NE NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD32	NE NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD38	NW NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD39	NW NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD40	NE NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD41	NE NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WD42	SE NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982
32WE43	SE NW Sec. 11	Schweigert 1982

All of the above historic sites were recorded within or around the town of Sawyer as a result of the original levee survey of 1982. Full details of the sites are reported in Floodman et al. (1985). Some of these sites are single integrated residential house complexes, and others are combinations of different kinds of structures. All sites contain multiple features. The sites are shown in Figure 4.

The project surveys include a 1977 cultural resources inventory of portions of the upper Souris River area (Schneider 1977) and the 1982 surveys of the Lake Darling-Souris River project by Powers Elevation Co., Inc. (Floodman et al. 1985). Both surveys were undertaken as part of the proposed Souris River Basin flood control projects by the St. Paul District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

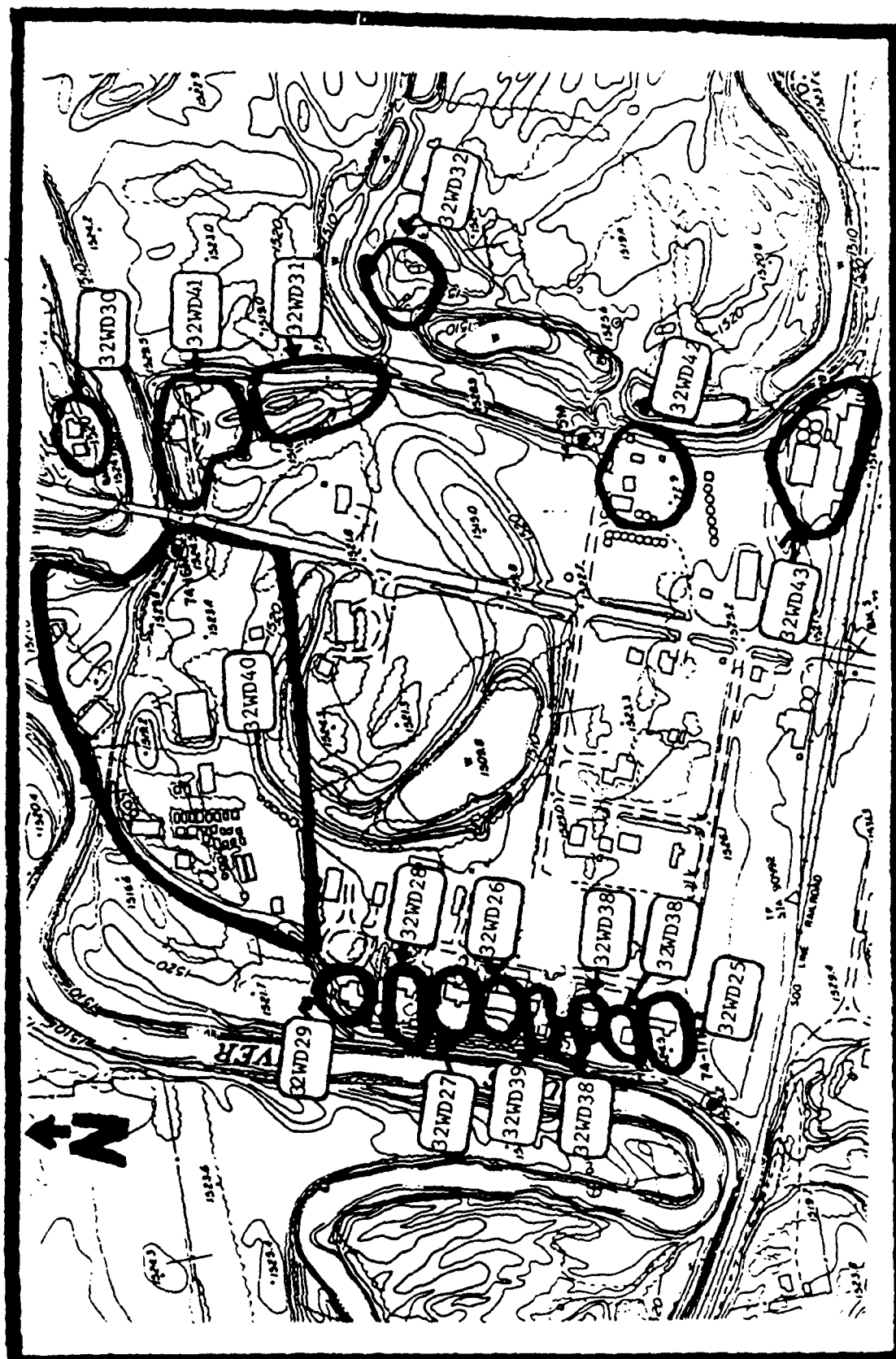


Figure 4. Historic Sites In Sawyer

The current survey can be placed within a larger historical and archaeological perspective of the region by examination of the above reports, as well as the reports by Good and Fox (1978) and Schweigert (1979).

#### 4.0 CULTURAL OVERVIEW

The following is a brief outline of the cultural framework for the prehistoric and historic periods for the project area under consideration. A full discussion of the cultural background for the project area can be found within the larger previous survey report from 1982 fieldwork (Floodman et al. 1985).

##### 4.1 PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW

The primary sources for the cultural outline below are Reeves (1970), Willey (1966), Lehmer (1971), Frison (1978), and Syms (1977). The synopsis is brief, outlined within three broad cultural periods.

The Early Prehistoric Period (8500 B.C.-5500 B.C.) represents the earliest cultural period which can be conclusively demonstrated. This period is often referred to as the Paleo-Indian Period. The period is represented by three representative complexes: the Clovis, Folsom, and the Plano.

The Middle Prehistoric Period (5500 B.C.-A.D. 500) is often referred to as the Archaic period. It can be subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late Archaic stages. The Early Archaic is represented by the Mummy Cave/Logan Creek and the Oxbow complexes. The Middle Plains Archaic is highlighted by the appearance of the McKean Complex marked by the presence of McKean, Duncan, and Hanna projectile point styles. The Late Plains Archaic is noted by the appearance of the Pelican Lake Complex and later by the Besant/Sonota Complex. The Late Archaic is contemporaneous with the Middle Plains Woodland cultures which include the Sonota and Laurel complexes.

The Late Prehistoric Period (A.D. 500-A.D.1800) is marked by changes in technology related to the appearance of the bow and arrow. Complexes associated with the Late Prehistoric Period include the Avonlea, Blackduck and Old Women's Complexes. Lehmer's (1971) Middle Missouri and Coalescent tradition noted from studies along the Missouri River, are features of this period as well. On the Northeastern plains, the Devils Lake-Sourisford Complex is also present. The little known Mortlach Complex or Aggregate is also a feature of the Late Prehistoric Period, as is the Cluny Complex. The period is also marked by a series of little known cultures showing a high degree of Canadian influences, as well as traits of the Middle Missouri cultures.

#### 4.2 HISTORIC OVERVIEW

The historic period in the Souris River valley began with the first direct contact between Euro-Americans and the native tribes in the region. A long period of exploration followed during which the fur trade determined the nature of the relationship between the two cultural groups. While the territory changed hands from France to Spain to England to the United States, the area remained isolated and unsettled. With the discovery of gold in Montana in 1861, this began to change. Military forts were established along the Missouri River and attempts to open wagon trails to the Souris River area were made. Conflict with the Sioux prevented permanent settlements. Toward the end of the 1870s, the Sioux had been confined to reservations and railroads began building westward through the area. The arrival of the railroad resulted in the first Euro-American settlements in the area and was associated with range cattle in 1880. At the turn of the century, a second boom in settlement occurred, stimulated by the expansion of rail lines, platting of new townsites, and cash-crop agriculture. Adverse environmental and economic factors hurt the small ranches and farms, resulting in an out-migration of the area after 1910. The trend of abandonment continued through the 1920s. Towns such as Minot, Velva, and Sawyer developed as regional trade centers. The city of Sawyer developed from the 1890s expansion of railroads and became a post office in 1898. It was platted in 1902. The town of Sawyer was boosted by lignite mining. Six mines operated within a ten mile radius of Sawyer in 1906. In 1909, the Church of the Nazarene built the "North Dakota District Campgrounds" and associated structures in Sawyer. The camp was utilized for many years. The above is summarized from Floodman et al. (1985).

#### 5.0 GENERAL FIELD METHODOLOGY

The project modifications to the Sawyer levee protection program were located using the COE air photo project map with the inventory areas highlighted by yellow marker. The areas of survey were then transferred to the Sawyer 7.5' 1958 topographic quadrangle. The size and areal coverage for modifications were measured from these maps. The modifications were located in the field through inspection of the maps and the use of compass and pacing to determine the areal coverage. The survey consisted of a 100% on-the-ground examination of each area sufficient to determine the presence and extent of any cultural resource or features within the project limits.

The impact areas were carefully surface inspected using a pedestrian transect interval of no larger than 15 m, as specified by the scope-of-work. Exact methods and transects varied among the areas inventoried due to dense floodplain forest, existing levees, and historic features present. However, while closer, random intervals were utilized in some areas, at no time were larger intervals used for the surface survey. All areas were

carefully examined in surface visible areas and attention was paid for potential features in heavy grass areas, i.e., stone circles, foundations, etc. Surface areas inspected for cultural remains include rodent backdirt mounds, cattle trails, deflation, and erosional areas, bladed areas, and any such area with surface or subsurface exposure. Surface inspection was augmented by close examination of river cutbank profiles in any area adjacent to the Souris River. Profiles were examined for buried soils, eroding cultural materials, and the potential for intact, buried cultural deposits in the area.

Following surface inspection, the areas were examined by a series of subsurface shovel test probes. The probes were utilized in the areas of Modifications #1, #2, and #3. Permission for probes was denied at Modification #4. All fill from the shovel probes was screened using quarter inch-mesh hardware cloth. Methodology for the placement of the probes varied at each area inspected. At Modification #1, the channel cutoff was examined using a series of probes placed at 15 m intervals along the approximate centerline of the proposed impact. The probes were placed within the forest and unused field area only. The area of the modern alfalfa field was skipped over, as landowner permission was not obtained to test the area. A total of eight probes were utilized. At Modification #2, three probes were utilized on the north bank to augment the good surface visibility, one on each end and in the center. On the south bank, the probes were placed randomly in cleared areas of the dense floodplain forest on the west side of the proposed project impact area. A total of four probes were excavated. At Modification #3, a total of four probes were placed on the south bank of the river in the area of forest east of the existing levee. The probes were in an approximate line from east to west about 15 m from the river cutbank edge.

## 6.0 PROJECT MODIFICATIONS AND RESULTS

The project areas are located within and around the townsite of Sawyer. The areas are all found on the immediate floodplain of the Souris River along the bottom of the river valley. The predominant native vegetation is Northern Flood Plain Forest. Much of the areas are disturbed from construction and human development within Sawyer. The four area of modification inspected by the current project are more fully defined and described below.

### 6.1 MODIFICATION #1

The Modification #1 survey area is located within a portion of the NW1/4NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 11, T153N, R81W. The modification involved the construction of a channel cutoff across the neck of a sharp meander of the Souris River (Figure 5a). The defined

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St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers  
Levee Modifications at Sawyer  
Ward County, North Dakota



Figure 5a. Modification #1: Facing  
Southwest Along The Channel Cutoff.



Figure 5b. Modification #1: Closeup  
Of Stratified Profile Northeast End  
Of The Cutoff.

impact area of surface inspection is approximately 700 ft long by a maximum of 200 ft in width (Figures 2 and 3).

The channel cutoff is north of the town of Sawyer and is not affected by town construction. The only disturbance is from the two cultivated fields within the proposed right-of-way. The channel cutoff crosses an area of floodplain forest on the southwest end. The cover is dense grasses, trees, downed trees, and brush. Visibility is near nil. As the cutoff arcs to the northeast, it crosses first an open, unused grassy field and then an existing alfalfa field. It then enters another stretch of more open and grazed forest to the river channel. Surface visibility along the stretch of the cutoff varies, but is generally very poor. The alfalfa and open field have visibility of about 20 to 30% maximum and ranges to less than ten percent. Visibility is limited to numerous rodent backdirt mounds and cattle trails along the grazed areas. No surface cultural materials or features were encountered.

Two river cutbank exposures were examined, one at each end of the cutoff. These river cutbanks were sharply contrasting. However, neither of the exposures contained cultural materials. One produced evidence of buried soils and bone along the river, while the other lacked stratification.

The profile from the southwest end of the cutoff was deep with a sheer vertical drop of two to three meters in height. The upper two meters were visible before slump covered the profiles. The profile is quite simple. The upper 15 cm consists of a dark brown sandy clay loam surface soil. Below this level, a light brown very sandy loam, which is unconsolidated and undifferentiated, is present to the base of the profile. No visible soils or buried paleosols are visible in the profile.

The profile on the northeastern end of the cutoff contrasts to this profile. The stratified profile is described below. It is from a bank north of the channel cutoff in an area of good visibility and access. Only the top 80 cm is visible above the heavy slumps along the bank.

0-5 cm	sod and dark brown loam surface soil
5-37 cm	light brown sandy loam
37-47 cm	dark brown/black clay loam paleosol
47-51 cm	light brown loam
51-57 cm	dark brown/black clay loam soil
57-64 cm	mottled light and dark brown clay loam
64-67 cm	dark brown clay loam soil with burnt bone fragment
67-77 cm	light brown clay loam
77-82 cm	dark brown clay loam paleosol
slump	profile not visible

Associated along the cutbank profile are one bison tibia, one bison scapula, and one bison rib spread along a 20 m section of the bank. The bone is on the surface of the slump and not

associated with any of the defined soils (Figure 5b). The only bone in profile is the 64-67 cm soil level where several burnt bone fragments are visible. No cultural materials were present. However, the potential for buried cultural deposits is demonstrated in this area by the profile. The stratified area may not extend too far to the southwest as the land rises sharply some two to three ft in elevation. The profile may demarcate a stratified area along the river edge and not the profile of the flatter upper terrace and floodplain. A series of shovel probes along the centerline was excavated to determine the presence of cultural materials and the character of the soil profiles to the southwest along the corridor of impact.

The shovel probes are described in detail in the field notes and were submitted with the draft report under a separate cover. A total of eight probes were excavated along the cutoff (Figure 2). None produced cultural materials or bone. The first probe was dug on the northeast end of the cutoff about 25 m from the profile and 3.5 m from the river cutbank edge. This probe produced stratification of the profile similar to the bank. The other probes, placed at 15 m intervals, failed to show similar stratification. It is clear that the stratigraphy is for a narrow band along the river bank only and not the upper terrace. The upper terrace has a profile more similar to the other profile. The upper 25 to 30 cm contained a dark loam soil over an unstratified sandy clay loam.

Based upon the negative shovel tests, no further work is recommended along the channel cutoff.

## 6.2 MODIFICATION #2

The Modification #2 survey area is located within portions of the NE1/4NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 11 and the SW1/4SE1/4SW1/4 and SE1/4SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 2, T153N, R81W. This modification involved levee construction and bank stabilization on both sides of the Souris River. The impact area along the channel is approximately a maximum of 700 ft in length by 150 ft in width. A segment of levee was inventoried tailing to the southwest along an existing levee some 1,000 ft long by 50 ft in width.

The northern side of this modification is upstream to the northeast from the channel cutoff (Figure 6a). The impact area on the north side of the river is about 600 ft long by 40 ft wide. The entire area is in a heavily grazed pasture of floodplain forest which is undisturbed. The impact area here consists of a sandy terrace covered by forest. The cutbanks are not steep. They are slumped; with gentle slopes, and grass covered. The area in trees has good visibility due to the milling and grazing of the cattle. The areas are exposed to a very sandy, loam with surface visibility between 50 to 100 %. Some cutbank profiles are visible on the west end, with up to 15 cm of topsoil over undifferentiated sandy river alluvium. Three

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Ward County, North Dakota



Figure 6a. Modification #2: North Bank,  
Facing East.



Figure 6b. Modification #2: South Bank  
Facing East, Looking Over River  
Bank, Facing South.

probes were excavated in this area, one each, on the east, west, and center (Figure 2). None of the probes produced cultural materials or evidence of stratification.

The south bank of the river consists of an area about 700 ft long by 40 ft wide along the river bank (Figure 6b). The area is impacted from construction and the modern buildings at Site 32WD40, the Church of the Nazarene Bible Camp. Cutbanks along the river show no buried soils or potential for buried cultural materials. Visibility along the disturbed site area is 40 to 50%. An existing levee runs through the site along the bank of the river. The low terrace north of the levee is covered by dense vegetation and floodplain forest undergrowth. The area is littered with modern trash, boards, and assorted items from the occupation to the south.

Site 32WD40 is an abandoned Church of the Nazarene camp located on Lot 1, Block 2 of Ruth's Addition to Sawyer (Figure 7a). The site includes a large frame meeting hall with pyramidal roofs, several rectangular frame cabins with gabled roofs, a gabled concrete block lavatory building, a large gabled frame kitchen/dining hall, a recently constructed concrete garage, and a recently imported frame dwelling. The levee has been constructed through the site and all structures are deteriorating due to weathering and vandalism. Feature 15 is located north of the levee and is eroding over the edge of the river bank. It is currently utilized as a horse stable and tack room.

This site was evaluated as ineligible to the NRHP (Floodman et al. 1985). The site has possible significance to the religious history of North Dakota, but as it is essentially a religious institution, it is categorically excluded from the NRHP. The site does not have sufficient architectural merit or cultural associations to otherwise merit NRHP listing. The site is considered not eligible and no further work at this portion of the project modification is recommended prior to construction.

The remaining area of the survey is a levee which tails off to the southwest from the area of the Site 32WD40, for a distance of about 1,000 ft and is about 50 ft in width (Figure 7b). South and east of the existing levee is the bible camp, 32WD40. On the west side of the levee is a steep drop to a lower terrace of dense floodplain forest. Four random probes along the west edge of the levee on the lower terrace floor produced no evidence of cultural materials or buried cultural horizons or paleosols marking potential site locations. All exhibited a 20 to 25 cm topsoil over an undifferentiated sandy loam of alluvium. No further work is recommended in this area, as well.

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Figure 7a. Modification #2: 32WD40,  
Overview Levee Area And Disturbance  
To The Northwest.



Figure 7b. Modification #2: 32WD40,  
Overview Levee Area And Disturbance  
To The Southeast.

### 6.3 MODIFICATION #3

The survey area for Modification #3 is located within the N1/2 NE1/4NW1/4 of Section 11, T153N, R81W. The modification involves levee construction on both sides of the Souris River. The total area of impact measures approximately 400 ft in length by 250 ft in width.

The survey area on the north bank of the Souris River is about 600 ft long by 60 ft wide. It extends from the bridge at Highway 23 to the east. It also extends across Highway 23 along the west side for a distance of about 100 ft. The area is impacted from construction of modern dwellings and historic developments. The narrow survey area is along a stretch of floodplain forest. The river bank has deep exposures. The cutbanks show no deeply buried soils or horizons. Soils consist of an upper humic zone to around 25 cm overlying undifferentiated sandy alluvium.

The north bank is highlighted by the presence of previously recorded historic Site 32WD30 (Figure 8a). This site consists of a one story frame dwelling and a wood frame garage. The site exhibits no architectural or other physical distinction and has no significant historical associations. The site was found to be ineligible to NRHP (Floodman et al. 1985) and no further work is recommended for the site area.

The south side of the river consists of an area which has also been disturbed by existing levee construction, riprap bank protection, and by construction of historic dwellings. This area includes the first 300 ft in length by 120 ft width of the survey area. From the existing levee it drops to the river along a riprapped bank. The area south of the levee contains Site 32WD41 and a lawn area (Figure 8b).

Site 32WD41 consists of a one story hipped frame dwelling, two gabled frame garages, a shed outhouse, and a small A-frame animal shelter. The exterior of the dwelling has good integrity, but the interior is extensively remodeled. The site is not considered to qualify for listing on the NRHP (Floodman et al. 1985). No further work is recommended.

The survey area continues west from the existing levee another 150 ft by 80 ft in width. This area is undisturbed and supports a dense floodplain forest with grasses, trees, and shrubs that obscure visibility. A series of four probes was excavated in a line in this area at 15 m intervals (Figure 2). No evidence of cultural materials or of buried site potential and soil horizons were noted. No further work is recommended in this area.

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Figure 8a. Modification #3: North  
Bank, Facing East, 32WD30.



Figure 8b. Modification #3: North  
Bank, Facing East, 32WD30.

#### 6.4 MODIFICATION #4

The survey area for Modification #4 is located within the NE1/4SE1/4NE1/4 of Section 12, T153N, R81W. The modification involves the construction of two segments of levee and a ponding area. The eastern side of the levee is along an existing levee and extends approximately 400 ft in length by 60 ft in width (Figure 9a). The ponding area is about 120 ft by 100 ft in width. The west side of the levee construction is approximately 400 ft in length and 80 ft in maximum width (Figure 9b). It crosses undisturbed areas and forest-lawns.

Modification #4 is within the Sawyer city limits and suburban area. The existing levee circles to the north and west on the east side, while the rest is floodplain forest. The survey area is very low and moist and probably represents an old channel area. Visibility was less than 10%, but site potential in the low, moist areas is very low. The area has been disturbed by modern construction (a house and buildings, driveways, gardens, etc.) and levee construction. Also, a very modern trash pit with plastics and cans was noted. No further testing was done, as landowner permission was denied. However, testing in this low area would likely not be fruitful, in any case. No further work is recommended in this area.

#### 7.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

No prehistoric cultural materials or sites were recorded by the survey of the proposed modifications to the Sawyer flood control project. No prehistoric materials were recovered from any of the surface or cutbank inspections and none from the shovel probes excavated. The only area to show any potential for buried cultural remains was along the northwest end of the channel cutoff in Modification Area #1. Probes in this area were negative and no cultural materials were associated with the stratigraphy.

No historic sites were recorded either. However, historic sites recorded by the 1982 inventory were encountered and relocated within project areas. These sites include the Church of the Nazarene bible camp site 32WD40 in Modification Area #2, and sites 32WD30 and 32WD41 in Modification Area #3. These sites were all evaluated as ineligible for nomination to the NRHP in 1982.

No new historic or prehistoric cultural resources were recorded during the survey of the new modifications to the Sawyer flood control project. The existing historic sites are ineligible for the NRHP and should require no further work. The survey has reconfirmed the lack of significant resources in the Sawyer area suggested by the initial 1982 survey. The surface and subsurface inspections revealed no potential impact to buried cultural resources in the proposed project areas. Based on the negative survey results of the project, it is recommended that no further work at any of the four areas inspected be considered necessary prior to the project construction impacts.

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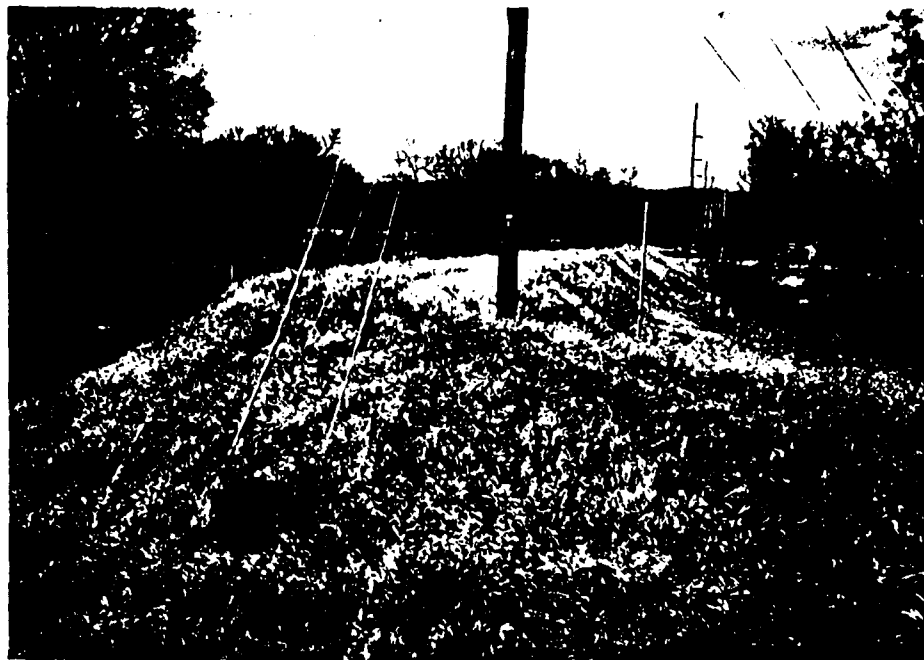


Figure 9a. Modification #4: North  
Along The Existing Levee East Side  
Of The Project Area.



Figure 9b. Modification #4: North  
Along The West Side Of The Proposed  
Levee.

## 8.0 REFERENCES CITED

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U.S. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

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Willey, G.

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APPENDIX A  
COE Scope of Work

SCOPE OF WORK  
CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY  
OF THE LEVEE MODIFICATIONS  
AT SAWYER, NORTH DAKOTA

1.00 INTRODUCTION

1.01 The Contractor will undertake a cultural resources survey of the modifications to the Sawyer, North Dakota levee project. The levees at Sawyer are being constructed as part of the overall Souris River project.

2.00 SURVEY AREA

2.01 The community of Sawyer is located in Ward County, North Dakota approximately 16 miles downstream from Minot, North Dakota. The community currently suffers from flooding of the Souris River and the Corps proposes to essentially upgrade the emergency levee system to provide permanent protection.

2.02 The project area at Sawyer was originally surveyed in 1982 as part of the cultural resources survey for the Lake Darling-Souris River project. This survey did not result in the location of any sites that would be affected by the proposed project at Sawyer.

2.03 Since the completion of that survey, however, the proposed project alignment has been modified to reduce costs. These modifications were not included in the 1982 survey. A map of the modifications to be surveyed under this contract is attached.

3.00 WORK SPECIFICATIONS

3.01 The Contractor will undertake the following tasks:

a. Conduct a literature and records search and review appropriate to the size of the survey area. This will include a review of known recorded prehistoric and historic sites within the survey area and surrounding vicinity. The literature search and review will also include an examination of appropriate maps (e.g., GLO's) and literature in order to discover site leads and site potential.

b. Conduct a 100-percent reconnaissance of the survey area. This reconnaissance survey will be conducted using standard professional methodology that includes, at a minimum, shovel testing.

c. If prehistoric or historic sites are located, each will be investigated to determine site size, depth, number of components (buried components?), condition, possible cultural affiliation, and potential or probable National Register significance. It is imperative that if sites are found, we know enough about them to evaluate what we are going to do about them, and how much money and time may be necessary.

d. The direct and indirect impacts of the proposed project will be assessed, and recommendations for project alignment changes and/or future cultural resources work will be developed.

e. Each site investigated will be thoroughly described and the methodology and literature work employed to investigate each site will be discussed. All sites will be evaluated for their potential significance, and their placement in the patterns and processes of Souris River valley prehistory and history.

f. A report will be prepared according to the specifications listed in section 6.00.

3.02 Basically what is needed is exactly where you went, what you did, the results, conclusions, and recommendations, with maps, photographs, and supporting data. The report could be short or lengthy depending on what you find.

#### 4.00 PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS

4.01 The Contractor will employ a systematic, interdisciplinary approach in conducting the study, using techniques and methods that represent the current state of knowledge for the appropriate disciplines. The Contractor will provide specialized knowledge and skills as needed, including expertise in archaeology and other social and natural sciences.

4.02 The Contractor will provide all materials and equipment necessary to perform the required services expeditiously.

4.03 The Contractor's survey will be an on-the-ground examination sufficient to determine the number and extent of any cultural resources present, including standing structures as well as prehistoric and historic archaeological sites.

4.04 The survey interval required for pedestrian survey and subsurface testing is 15 meters (50 feet). However, this interval may vary depending upon field conditions, site density, or size. If a larger interval is used, this decision must be justified in the Contractor's report.

4.05 The Contractor will screen all subsurface tests through 1/4-inch mesh hardware cloth.

4.06 The Contractor will recommend any Phase II testing measures that are warranted, including time and cost estimates.

4.07 The Contractor will return all subsurface test areas as closely as practical to pre-test conditions.

4.08 If it becomes necessary in the performance of the work and services, the Contractor will, at no cost to the Government, secure the rights of ingress and egress on properties not owned or controlled by the Government. The Contractor will secure the consent of the owner, or the owner's representative or agent, in writing prior to effecting entry on such property. If requested, a letter of introduction signed by the District Engineer can be provided to explain the project purposes and request the cooperation of landowners. Where a landowner denies permission for survey, the Contractor must immediately notify the Contracting Officer's representative and must describe the extent of the property to be excluded from the survey.

4.09 The Contractor must keep standard records that include field notes and maps, site survey forms, subsurface testing forms, and photographs.

4.10 State site forms will be prepared for all sites discovered during the survey, and records on previously reported sites will be updated. Data should be included on the present condition of each site and on the contents and locations of any collections from it. The Contractor will also submit all site forms and updates to the appropriate state agency.

4.11 Cultural materials and associated records from the study should be curated at an institution that can insure their preservation and make them available for research and public review. Curation should be within the state and as close as possible to the project area. The Contractor will be responsible for making curatorial arrangements, coordinating them with the appropriate officials of North Dakota, and obtaining approval from the Contracting Officer's representative.

4.12 When sites are not wholly contained within the survey area of this contract, the Contractor will include an area outside the survey area large enough to include the entire site. This shall be done to delineate the site boundaries and to adequately access the degree to which the site may be impacted.

4.13 The Contractor's work will be subject to the supervision, review, and approval of the Contracting Officer's representative.

4.14 The requirements listed in this scope of work are to be considered the minimal professional standards acceptable to the Government in the conduct of field survey. Any deviation from these standards must be adequately justified and described in the Contractor's report. Inadequate justification may require the Contractor to return to the field to meet minimal standards.

## 5.00 REPORT SPECIFICATIONS

5.01 The draft and final contract reports will include the following:

a. Background information on the project and records check, prehistory, protohistory, history, and environmental information that is pertinent to the study (no report filler - it must be applicable).

b. EXACT field methodology of where and what you did and why.

c. Results of fieldwork including any necessary analysis, interpretation, and conclusions.

d. Discussion of project impacts and recommendations.

e. The exact location of any proposed project features, the survey transects and all test locations (shovel, formal, auger) will be placed on a well drafted map or quad map. The report will also include all shovel, auger, and formal testing forms (test number, location, depth, stratigraphy, level sheets, etc.). All sites will be located on the maps and photographs, with their site boundaries and relationship to the proposed project illustrated.

f. Any site forms will be filled out and included as a report appendix.

#### 6.00 FORMAT SPECIFICATIONS

6.01 The Contractor will submit to the Contracting Office the photographic negatives for all photographs in the final report.

6.02 All text materials will be typed, single-spaced (the draft report should be space-and-a-half or double-spaced), on good quality bond paper, 8.5 inches by 8.5 inches, with a 1.5 inch binding margin on the left, 1 inch margins top and right, and a 1.5 margin on the bottom, and will be printed on both sides of the paper.

6.03 Information will be presented in textual, tabular, and graphic forms, whichever are most appropriate, effective, or advantageous to communicate the necessary information.

6.04 All figures and maps must be clear, legible, self-explanatory, and of sufficient high quality to be readily reproduced by standard xographic equipment, and will have margins as defined above.

6.05 The draft and final reports will be divided into easily discernible chapters, with appropriate page separations and headings.

#### 7.00 SUBMITTALS

7.01 The Contractor will submit reports according to the following schedules:

a. Field Report: A brief letter report summarizing the field work and its results will be submitted to the Contracting Officer within 10 working days of the completion of field work.

b. Draft Contract Report: Six copies of the draft contract report will be submitted no later than 60 days after the completion of field work. The draft contract report will be reviewed by the Corps of Engineers, the State Historic Preservation Office, the National Park Service, and other professionals as selected by the Contracting Officer.

c. Project Field Notes: One legible copy of all project field notes will be submitted with the draft contract report.

d. Final Contract Report: The original and 12 copies of the final report will be submitted 60 days after the Contractor receives the Corps of Engineers comments on the draft report. The final report will incorporate all the comments made on the draft report.

#### 8.00 CONDITIONS

8.01 Failure of the Contractor to fulfill the requirements of this Scope of Work will result in the rejection of the Contractor's report and/or termination of the contract.

8.02 Neither the Contractor nor his representative shall release any sketch, photograph, report or other materials of any nature obtained or prepared under the contract without specific written approval of the Contracting Officer's representative prior to the acceptance of the final report by the Government.

8.03 Site locations and other site and contact information will not be released to the public or any other agency or entity without specific permission of the Contracting Officer's representative.

8.04 All materials, documents, collections, notes, forms, maps, etc. that have been produced or acquired in any manner for use in completion of this contract shall be made available to the Contracting Officer's representative upon request.

8.05 Principal Investigators will be responsible for the validity of material presented in their reports. In the event of controversy or court challenge, the Principal Investigator(s) will be placed under separate contract to testify on behalf of the Government in support of the findings presented in their reports.

8.06 The Contractor will be responsible for adhering to all State laws and procedures regarding the treatment and disposition of human skeletal remains. If human remains are encountered, the Contracting Officer's representative will be immediately contacted and all work halted until further notice.

#### 9.00 METHOD OF PAYMENT

9.01 The Contractor will make periodic requests for payment based on the amount of work completed on the contract.

APPENDIX B  
FILE SEARCH

## REPORT OF FILE SEARCH

DATE: April 21, 1988

TO: Mervin G. Floodman  
Williston District Archaeologist  
Powers Elevation Company, Inc.  
810 2nd. Avenue West  
Williston, North Dakota 58801

FROM: Nick G. Franke  
P.O. Box 1902  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502

PROJECT: U.S. Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District; Sawyer  
Levee Project; Private Ownership; T.153N., R.81W.,  
Sec.'s 2, 10, 11; Ward County, North Dakota.

RESULTS: The file search was conducted on April 19, 1988  
at the State Historic Preservation Office in  
Bismarck, North Dakota. The National Register  
listings, the site location catalog, the survey  
report catalog, the uncataloged survey reports  
and the relevant cataloged survey reports were  
consulted. Two surveys had been conducted in the  
project area. Four site leads and fourteen sites  
had been reported.

CULTURAL  
RESOURCES: T.153N., R.81W., Sec. 11

Site Lead; Echo Post Office; NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; REAP 1978;  
Reported by Tweton, 1978.

Site Lead; Habitation; NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Map with WPA  
Survey Report; Reported by Hecker, 1938.

Site Lead; Habitation; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Map with  
WPA Survey Report; Reported by Hecker, 1938.

Site Lead; Habitation; On line between SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11  
and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 14; Map in WPA Survey File; Reported  
by Hecker, 1938.

32WD25: Historic; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by  
Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD32: Historic; NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD26: Historic; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD27: Historic; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD28: Historic; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD29: Historic; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD30: Historic; NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD31: Historic; NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD38: Historic; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD39: Historic; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD40: Historic; NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD41: Historic; NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD42: Historic; SE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

32WD43: Historic; SE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11; Reported by Schweigert, 11/82.

(The historic sites were in or around the town of Sawyer.)

#### AREAS

SURVEYED: T.153N., R.81W., Sec. 11

Schneider, Ms. #136 and Ms. #138: Both manuscripts refer to the same survey. The report contained no precise description of the area surveyed.

Floodman, Ms. #3672: A levee in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 11 was surveyed. The map with the report shows the levee north of the town of Sawyer. The historic sites in the section are described on V175 through 182 in the report. pages

# SURVEY

REPORTS: Floodman, Mervin G., Paul D. Friedman, Kurt Schweigert, and Ann M. Johnson  
 1985 Final Report of the 1982 Cultural Resources Survey for the Lake Darling--Souris River Project, North Dakota. Ms. #3672.

Schneider, Fred E.

1977 Preliminary Field Reconnaissance and Literature Search of Cultural Resources in the Burlington Dam Project. Ms. #136.

1977 Preliminary Cultural Resource Investigation of the Upper Souris River Basin, North Dakota. Ms. #138.